

Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

Date: September 18, 2017

To: Interested Parties and Stakeholders

Join the Water Board as we develop our Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation Strategy

**Provide Your Input.
Help Prioritize & Refine Our Actions.**

Your feedback at one or more of our public workshops and/or your participation in our online survey is helping to shape how we adapt to climate change in the Lahontan Region. We appreciate your willingness to stay engaged as we further develop the Lahontan Water Board's proposed Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Strategy (Strategy). Input from public workshops and responses from the online survey helped us identify that we (stakeholders and partners in our region and Water Board staff) agree on the primary areas to focus our climate change efforts.

The Strategy will be a living document that will be updated and expanded as the knowledge of climate change impacts on water quality, and goals to address these impacts, evolve. Staff will either take a lead role to shepherd actions that fit under our regulatory programs, or provide support to propel climate change adaptation activities being led by others. The Strategy will involve a combination of Water Board (1) efforts already underway (2) goals proposed for attention, and (3) opportunities to partner with existing, key regional efforts being directed by others. Many of the climate change mitigation and adaptation actions that are either proposed or underway include approaches to improve and streamline permits in our core regulatory programs.

Through the public participation process, together we have distilled over 400 initial ideas to three primary focus areas: (1) protection of wetlands, floodplains, and headwaters, (2) protection of critical recharge areas and maintenance/improvement to infrastructure, and (3) water conservation and water recycling through low impact development and

PETER C. PUMPHREY, CHAIR | PATTY Z. KOUYOUMDJIAN, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

2501 Lake Tahoe Blvd., So. Lake Tahoe, CA 96150 | 15095 Amargosa Road, Bldg 2, Ste 210, Victorville CA 92394
e-mail Lahontan@waterboards.ca.gov | website www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan

storm water management. Based on stakeholder input and on input from within our organization, we have identified the following six priority areas or Goals:

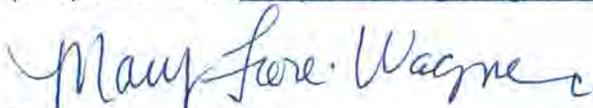
- Goal 1: Increase Storm Water Treatment and Infiltration
- Goal 2: Protect Recharge Areas and Floodplains
- Goal 3: Increase Protection and Restoration of Headwaters
- Goal 4: Increase Monitoring of Climate Change Indicators
- Goal 5: Reduce Nitrogen Loading to Surface and Groundwater
- Goal 6: Protect Infrastructure.

Achieving these proposed Goals can be accomplished through a variety of strategies, or Options. The upcoming Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Outreach Meetings will present our six Goals and Options that can be incorporated into these Goals to adapt to our changing climate. Water Board staff seek your feedback on these proposed Options.

The purpose of the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Outreach Meetings is to continue to consider your input and foster productive relationships as we further develop the key elements that will be included in our Strategy. Your thoughtful input is requested on the overarching questions that we will be discussing during the brainstorming sessions outlined on the enclosed Agenda.

We also request that you consider more focused questions pertaining to specific goals that interest and/or affect you most. To direct your attention, Staff has prepared individual Fact Sheets for each proposed Goal (Goal nos. 1-6). The Fact Sheets further detail the Goals we are considering for our Strategy and present additional questions to consider that will help us refine how we proceed. Fact Sheets can be viewed by clicking on the hyperlink that corresponds to the goal number found above and in Table 2 in the enclosed document titled: Proposed Strategy Overview.

We hope you join us to provide your valued input, so we can prioritize and shape actions that will be effective in adapting to climate change. Please contact me directly at (530) 542-5425 (mary.fiore-wagner@waterboards.ca.gov), if you have any questions.



Mary Fiore-Wagner
Senior Environmental Scientist

Enclosures: Agenda: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Public Outreach Meeting
Proposed Strategy Overview